



MEMO

TO: North Dakota Healthcare Providers
North Dakota Laboratory Directors
Local Public Health Units

FROM: Tracy K. Miller, MPH
Epidemiology and Surveillance Program Manager

RE: West Nile Virus and Arbovirus Testing

DATE: October 31, 2005

The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) would like to thank you for your efforts during the 2005 West Nile virus (WNV) season. The NDDoH's arbovirus surveillance program will be suspended for the winter months starting **November 1, 2005**. More than 1,400 samples were sent to the North Dakota Public Health Laboratory for testing, with 86 positive samples identified to date.

Free laboratory testing for arboviral encephalitis will be discontinued on November 1, 2005. Exceptions may be made after consultation with Disease Control staff or with Myra Kosse, Director of the Microbiology Lab. Arboviral testing will continue to be offered as a fee-for-service. Cost of testing is \$60 for WNV testing only or \$120 for the arboviral panel. If you have any questions regarding testing, please contact the laboratory at 701.328.6272.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Michelle Feist or Tracy Miller at 701.328.2378 or 800.472.2180.